

Nursery
Autumn 1
2026

Walkley Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'



Topic: This Is Me!

The Big Picture

Welcome to the first term of the year in Elmers. For many children this will be the first time they are experiencing school and we want the experience to be the best it can be for them. We know that coming to a new place the children will be unfamiliar with the building, the environment and the people so this term is all about helping the children to get to know their new school and their new friends. We will be looking at why we are called the Elmers and starting off by reading the class text 'Elmer'. This will lead us on a journey to thinking about how we are all different and special in our own ways. We will look at ourselves, our families and where we live. A big part of this term will be learning about the people who work in our school and the jobs they do that help our school to be the special place that it is. We will learn more about our class teachers and then other key staff and their roles in school. Finally we will move on to learning about where our school is and people who help us to stay safe and well in our local community.

Key Information and Dates

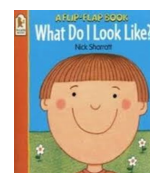
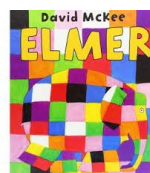
This term we will be heading up to the Forest School as much as we can. We have lots of new children joining our Nursery this term so we will be working around settling in sessions. If you could please make sure that your child has weather appropriate clothing on all days—warm coats and wellies. This will allow us the freedom to go to the forest any time it is free. We will also be accessing our outdoor classroom space throughout the term wind, rain and shine so again suitable clothing for this would be great.

We have a lovely new portable oven so we are planning to do lots of cooking and baking this year. We will follow parental guidance with regards to allergies to ensure safety and will message post the recipes out on Dojo prior to the baking sessions.

Alongside our outdoor learning, we will be inviting visitors into school from one or more of our emergency services to talk to the children and show the children some of the equipment they use to help people. Dates for this are yet to be confirmed and we will try our very best to spread our visits and visitors across the week to allow all children that chance to experience and enhanced curriculum.

Communication and language

Class Texts:



Literacy Focus:

Literacy plays a big part in our Nursery curriculum. We will be making lots of opportunities to listen to and follow instructions. We will listen to stories and use these stories to learn new vocabulary, talk about characters, events and make predictions. Our literacy focus will also help to guide activities in our continuous provision.

We will be introducing the children to letter sounds through the RWI programme looking at a letter per week, what it looks like, what it sounds like and how we can write it.

There will be many opportunities for the children to mark make using a variety of different tools and mediums.

Home Learning

At home please encourage your child to develop their independence. It would be helpful if the Elmers could practice putting on and taking off their own coats. Allow the children time to talk and share with others any exciting things they have been doing at home and try to encourage turn taking and sharing with others. There will also be opportunities for the children to bring home and share a school book from our class library and the children will be taking turns to bring home our class toy and diary. This is a great way for the children to talk to their classmates about things that they have been doing outside of school and is a great way of encouraging the children to use and develop their language.

Maths	
Number	We will be thinking about numbers as we play. For example, counting how many plates and cups we need in the roleplay area, counting our friends as we line up and planning in lots more opportunities for seeing and using numbers within our continuous provision. We will focus on a different number song each week , repeating the song daily to allow the children chance to learn the song and be able to join in with the words and actions.
Numerical Patterns	We will be focusing on developing early math skills; recognising, naming and matching colours. Sorting by various attributes and continuing AB patterns. This will be planned along side our continuous provision activities such as jigsaws and stacking cups which will encourage learning shapes, space and measures.

Understanding the World	
History	We will be developing our history skills through the language we use to talk about events in our lives and nursery routines—today, tomorrow, yesterday. We will be talking about our families and experiences we have had within our families outside of school life.
Geography	We will be learning about our immediate environment. Taking walks around school looking at the building and school grounds. Meeting people in our school community who are here to look after us and help us, and then thinking about people in our wider community who are there to help us such as, the Emergency services and healthcare professionals
Science	We will explore the school grounds and observe seasonal changes looking for signs of Autumn We will be planting bulbs in our class garden and looking at how the plants around us are changing .

Physical development	We will have lots of opportunities to run, climb, ride and throw using the equipment in our outside space. We will be visiting our school hall for weekly PE sessions; where we will learn to follow instructions, learn how to use space, and equipment safely.	Personal, social, emotional development	This half term our key learning is—Keeping Safe We will be developing our sense of responsibility & thinking about the parts we play as members of a community. We will learn how to play with one or more children. Thinking about making friends and enjoying each others company. We will be learning our school rules, getting to grips with the routines in our classroom and beginning to understand why these are important. We will also be meeting regularly with Monty our colour monster to learn about feelings and becoming used to using words related to how we might feel.
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Expressive art and design	We will be learning how to use our art resources allowing us to eventually access them more independently and freely during our choosing time. We will explore a range of techniques: printing, painting and making collages linking our art work to our current topic. We will explore colour and colour mixing looking at the changing colours in nature during Autumn We will also be looking at how to create art with less typical resources fingers, hands and feet and creating transient art using a range of different materials to create faces and linking this to our work on feelings	Religious Education	Our RE Theme this half term is—Special People Key Question: What makes people special? Religions: Christianity, Judaism We will explore this theme through stories and talk and will be aiming to cover our objectives within our topic work.
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